

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - February 22, 2006

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced today the unsealing of a one-count indictment charging Rodney Adam Coronado, a self-proclaimed member of the Earth Liberation Front ("ELF"), with the felony charge of demonstrating the use of a destructive device. Coronado was arrested earlier today in Tucson, Arizona, by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

According to the indictment, on August 1, 2003, at a public gathering in the Hillcrest neighborhood of San Diego, Coronado taught and demonstrated the making and use of a destructive device, with the intent that the device be used to commit arson. Hours earlier, a fire had destroyed a large apartment complex under construction in the University Towne Center (UTC) area of San Diego.

United States Attorney Lam stated, "Teaching people how to build explosives in order to commit violent crimes is unacceptable in civilized society. There is no excuse for it."

Daniel R. Dzwilewski, Special Agent in Charge, San Diego Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, commented, "America will not tolerate terrorists. Whether you were born here or abroad, we will not stand back and allow you to terrorize our communities under the guise of free speech."

John T. Torres, Division Director, Special Agent in Charge, Los Angeles Field Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, stated, "When organizations such as ELF/ALF engage in these senseless acts of violence, it threatens us all. ATF will continue to aggressively pursue these types of cases, and bring this type of criminal activity to a halt."

Coronado is scheduled to be arraigned on the indictment before a United States Magistrate Judge in Tucson, Arizona.

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 06CR0298JM

Rodney Adam Coronado

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Number of Counts: One

Violation: Title 18, United States Code, Section 842(p)(2)(A) - Distribution of Information Relating to Explosives, Destructive Devices and Weapons of Mass Destruction
Maximum penalty: Twenty years' imprisonment and/or a \$250,000 fine.

AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
San Diego Police Department
San Diego County Sheriff's Department

An indictment itself is not evidence that the defendant committed the crimes charged. The defendant is presumed innocent until the Government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.